

This acquisition is being conducted under the advisory multi-step procedures found at Federal Acquisition Regulation 15.202. Your responses to the criteria described below will be evaluated by a team of technical personnel using a color rating plan as follows:

Purple: A proposal that demonstrates competence and far exceeds the minimum requirements of the criteria; has a high probability of success, contains no weaknesses or deficiencies.

Green: A proposal that demonstrates competence and exceeds the minimum requirements of the criteria; has an above average probability of success; no significant weaknesses and only minor correctable deficiencies exist.

Blue: A proposal that meets in all aspects the minimum requirements of the criteria; has a good probability of success; no significant weaknesses and any deficiencies can be readily corrected.

Yellow: A proposal that fails to meet the minimum requirements of the criteria but may through negotiations; low probability of success; major weaknesses and/or significant number of deficiencies that may be improved or corrected through discussions.

Red: A proposal that fails to meet minimum requirement of the criteria; proposal needs major revisions; very low probability of success.

Weakness - A flaw in the proposal that increases the risk of successful contract performance.

Deficiency - A material failure in the proposal to demonstrate that the proposal meets our requirements.

The criteria for this initial step, to include the standards and weight for each criterion are:

Criterion 1: Competence and Experience. Your submission must demonstrate competence and experience in similar work. In order to achieve a blue rating you must provide evidence of at least five years experience in performing similar services. This criterion is very important.

Criterion 2: Quality Control. You shall submit a quality control plan for a previous similar contract or an outline of a plan that you would use for this requirement. In order to achieve a blue rating, your submission must demonstrate an understanding of the QC process, reasonable methods of identifying problems and initiating corrective action and a commitment to quality. This is an important criterion.

Criterion 3: Financial. Your submission must demonstrate that you have the financial ability to operate this contract. In order to achieve a blue rating, you must provide evidence that you have the ability for fund \$1,500,000 of costs while waiting for Government reimbursement. This is an important criterion.

After the completion of evaluations, you will be notified as to whether or not you are considered a viable competitor. This is an advisory notification and you may elect to continue into the next step of the acquisition. If you are part of the next step, your rating on the above criteria will be considered in your overall technical/management rating.

The next step of the acquisition will consist of the issuance of a solicitation to include a performance-based statement of work and the submission of price proposals, present and past performance proposals and the presentation of oral technical/management proposals. Award will be made to the contractor whose overall proposals represent the best value to the Government. Technical/management is the most important factor and past performance the next. Technical/management and past performance together are significantly more important than price. However as these two factors equalize, price can become a deciding factor.